

Building the Kingdom Planning – Reception 2022-23

Topic	Big Questions	Opportunities/Outcomes	Catholic Social Teaching	Scripture reference
Me and My Community	Who helps me?	Read the stories, My Mum by Anthony Browne and Superhero Dad by Timothy Knapman to stimulate conversations about people who help the children at home. Ask ‘Who helps you?’ and ‘How do they help you?’ Allow the children time to share their experiences and routines, and compare them to each other. For example, ‘Jake’s mum puts him to bed, but Mia’s dad puts her to bed’. Offer drawing and mark making materials for the children to respond to the stories and conversation. Ask pupils to join in with a prayer service with the theme of ‘who helps me?’ Focus on the importance of family and how our family members support us in life.	(Family and Community) The person is not only sacred but also social. How we organize our society—in economics and politics, in law and policy—directly affects human dignity and the capacity of individuals to grow in community. Marriage and the family are the central social institutions that must be supported and strengthened, not undermined. We believe people have a right and a duty to participate in society, seeking together the common good and well-being of all, especially the poor and vulnerable.	John 15:12-17 This is my commandment: love one another as I have loved you.
Marvellous Machines	How can machines help us with our work?	If possible, arrange for the local fire brigade or police to bring their emergency vehicles to school. Before the visit, invite the children to think of questions to ask the emergency workers. Take photos of the children exploring the vehicles and equipment and machines the emergency workers use. Talk to the emergency workers about how the machines help them with their job. How often do they use them? Who cleans/takes care of them? How much do they cost? How do they feel about their job? What are their rights? Do they get a break? Do they get help when they need it? Do they get paid? (all of these questions link to the rights of workers, so record their answers)	(Dignity of Work and the Rights of Workers) The economy must serve people, not the other way around. Work is more than a way to make a living; it is a form of continuing participation in God’s creation. If the dignity of work is to be protected, then the basic rights of workers must be respected--the right to productive work, to decent and fair wages, to the organization and joining of unions, to private property, and to economic initiative.	Deuteronomy 14:28-29 The Lord blesses our work so that we may share its fruits with others.

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		<p>After the visit, display the Emergency vehicle picture cards and the Emergency worker picture cards alongside the photographs taken during the visit. Encourage the children to talk about the vehicles they saw and the facts they learned. You could add the photographs and quotes to a display or use them to make a photobook of the visit.</p>		
Long Ago	How important am I?!	<p>Ask the children to bring in photographs of themselves as babies. Have fun looking at the photos and see if the children can guess who is who. Ask the children to compare themselves now with when they were a baby. Ask, 'What can you do now that you couldn't do when you were a baby?' Provide the Then and now template, glue, writing resources, sound mats and word banks. The children can stick a current and baby photograph on the template or draw a picture if they don't have a photograph. Discuss how every human life is special and that our parents protected our lives when we were babies because we couldn't say what we needed or look after ourselves.</p> <p>How did you let people know what you needed when you were a baby? Who looked after you? How did they keep you safe? How did they help you to grow into the wonderful child you are today?</p> <p>Activity: write thank you cards to our parents/carers for protecting our lives.</p>	(Dignity of the Human Person) The Catholic Church proclaims that human life is sacred and that the dignity of the human person is the foundation of a moral vision for society. This belief is the foundation of all the principles of our social teaching. We believe that every person is precious, that people are more important than things, and that the measure of every institution is whether it threatens or enhances the life and dignity of the human person.	1 Corinthians 3:16 You are holy, for you are God's temple and God dwells in you.

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<p>Let's Explore</p>	<p>Where are all the creatures?</p>	<p>Explain that you will go on a journey around the school grounds to find out which animals live there. Ask the children which animals they think might live on the school grounds and where they should look. Explain that they will need to be quiet when they look for the animals, so they don't scare them away. Provide the children with cameras or tablets to take photographs of the animals they find on their journey. Look under rocks for worms, woodlice and centipedes and in the trees for birds and squirrels. When you return to the classroom, make a list of the animals you found.</p> <p>Were there any animals you were hoping or expecting to see but didn't?</p> <p>Activity: together, make a plan to encourage more insects and birds to visit/make their homes here. You could design and create a bug hotel, bird feeders, plant some wildflowers to encourage bees and butterflies. Make sure the children understand that as stewards of creation, it is our responsibility to care for the creatures that God has created.</p>	<p>(Stewardship of God's Creation)</p> <p>We show our respect for the Creator by our stewardship of creation. Care for the earth is not just an Earth Day slogan, it is a requirement of our faith. We are called to protect people and the planet, living our faith in relationship with all of Gods creation. This environmental challenge has fundamental moral and ethical dimensions that cannot be ignored.</p>	<p>Genesis 2:15</p> <p>Humans are commanded to care for God's creation.</p>
<p>Dangerous Dinosaurs</p>	<p>Can I be a saviour?</p>	<p>Put damp sand in a deep plastic tray. Hide toy dinosaurs in the sand and freeze overnight. Provide the children with brushes and lollipop sticks to excavate the dinosaurs from the frozen sand. Encourage the children to work together to get the dinosaurs out safely.</p> <p>Explain to children about the process of excavation and how long ago the dinosaurs lived. Where are they now? What happened to them? Discuss the term extinct. Are there any animals we know of at risk of extinction? How</p>	<p>(Stewardship of God's Creation)</p> <p>In 2015, Pope Francis brought together decades of Church teaching in the encyclical, Laudato Si'. In this deeply influential letter, Pope Francis invites everyone on the planet to consider how our actions are affecting the earth and the poorest people. Everything is interconnected, and all</p>	<p>Psalms 104:24-25</p> <p>24 How many are your works, LORD! In wisdom you made them all; the earth is full of</p>

		<p>can we make a difference? Learn about animals on the verge of extinction and fundraise for an animal charity of the children’s choice. Ask children how they would like to fundraise (pupil voice)</p>	<p>of creation praises God. It is our Christian vocation to care for creation.</p>	<p>your creatures.</p>
<p>Big Wide World</p>	<p>Where shall we go?</p>	<p>Provide a small group of children with a range of travel brochures. Explain that they have a few minutes to agree on a place they would all like to visit. Encourage the children to work together to decide. Ask ‘Do you all agree on where you would like to go?’ Once the children have decided where they would like to go, ask them to explain their reasons.</p> <p>Develop this activity further, by making photo montages of the place the children have chosen and using the internet to find and print images. Show the children their chosen location on a world map and talk about how far they would need to travel to get there.</p>	<p>(Solidarity and the common good) We are one human family whatever our national, racial, ethnic, economic, and ideological differences. We are our brothers’ and sisters’ keepers, wherever they may be. Loving our neighbour has global dimensions in a shrinking world. At the core of the virtue of solidarity is the pursuit of justice and peace. Pope Paul VI taught that “if you want peace, work for justice.”¹ The Gospel calls us to be peacemakers. Our love for all our sisters and brothers demands that we promote peace in a world surrounded by violence and conflict.</p>	<p>Psalms 72 Living in right relationship with others brings peace.</p>